

Docket No. 2002-037R1  
PATENT

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BY: 

Suzanne Shadley

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	Jason Wells	Confirmation No.:	5848
Serial No.:	10/769,546	Group Art Unit:	1723
Filed:	1/30/2004		
For:	Microfiltration Device and Method For Washing And Concentrating Solid Particles	Examiner:	Dodge, J.

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

This Response to Restriction Requirement is submitted in response to the Office action dated June 7, 2006 with a response due on or before August 7, 2006. Applicants respectfully request consideration of the above-referenced patent application on the merits in view of the following remarks:

## REMARKS

The Office action sets forth a restriction requirement, and requires election between the inventions defined by Group I (claims 100-108 and 161-177) allegedly drawn to a process of purifying fluid passing through parallel membranes and backflushing the membranes, classified in class 210, subclass 636, Group II (claims 178-183) allegedly drawn to a process for sampling the retentate of a membrane intermittently to form multiple samples, classified in class 73, subclass 863.23, and Group III (claims 184-191) allegedly drawn to a process for sampling the retentate from a plurality of separate membranes mounted in parallel, classified in class 436, subclass 178.